

City Council of Bainbridge Island.

Tuesday 19th of June 2012.

RE: SMP.

Dear Members,

I have read most of the available information surrounding the requirements of the SMP, and many of the comments from Community.

It is my opinion, that we do not need this SMP. I say that because we already have one that works, and we are already a developed shoreline, with little or no land left to redevelop. I also feel that you, the members of Council, are out of your depth with the proposed Government guidelines, and how to deal with them. I say that with the highest respect for you all, it is just that this is something that none of you have any experience with, or are capable of making any decision that will satisfy the majority of property owners. This is very BIG.

If I had a voice, I would begin talks about mitigating this plan. In other words, begin a conversation with all the Government agencies involved, about the real need for this upheaval along our shoreline and within our Community.

The biggest threat to our waters, is that of storm water run-off. In particular the automobile waste generated on our roads, parking lots and areas in which auto's stand. I also feel that livestock pens, processing areas, are right up alongside the auto.

In mitigating these threats, by cleaning them up on a regular basis, I feel that the Governmental agencies will pay attention and listen to our leadership ideas. It is relatively easy to clean up all the areas I mention above. That is another topic, for later discussion.

Let us put on our "Big Boy/Big Girl" pants, and take the fight back to the Government, with a well thought out plan, which does indeed clean up the run-off, and in turn help to protect the waters off our shoreline.

The downside: There always is, and it is litigation. I see in the paper, that the City insurance carrier, is going to try and appeal the \$1million Court settlement in the Ostlings case.

I am not going to talk about that, but only to point out insurance companies do not like to pay out, it is not good business, they are there to make money and they will defend that right in court.

In the case of probable Shoreline Home owner's litigation, there is no insurance company going to carry that exposure. I say exposure, as the City is not in a position, financial experience or otherwise, to sustain litigation on the scale that may/will be brought on by this SMP. I also feel that there is no law firm willing to take on such a case, defending the City, and guarantee a favorable result. It would only end up in settlement at best, with the City at a loss financially.

The financial loss to the City will be devastating.

In the past 20 years, I have watched in awe, City Hall bounce from one financial upheaval to the next. Your responsibilities of Government to Community, have been diluted in the process, now to a point; we argue and question simple projects, like fixing the roads.

I would rather see a SMP Citizen Task Force appointed, because it appears citizen comments in the Public Arena, are being drowned out.

With respect and concern,

John Green.

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